

# AERO SQUADRON LEADS VILLA HUNT SENATE PLEDGES NO INTERVENTION

## TORPEDO SANK TUBANTIA, TWO OFFICERS AVER

Affidavits Set Forth That  
Dutch Liner Was Victim of  
German Submarine.

## PASSENGERS ALSO SWEAR

Papers Favoring Germany In-  
sist Liner Hit a Mine—Life-  
boat Is Missing.

LONDON, March 17.—One of  
the Tubantia's boats, carrying  
fifteen persons, is missing, and it  
is feared has been lost, the Even-  
ing Standard declared this after-  
noon.

AMSTERDAM, March 17.—Af-  
fidavits made by the first and fourth  
officers of the Dutch liner  
Tubantia declare that the steamer  
was torpedoed according to an of-  
ficial statement from the admi-  
rality, telegraphed here today.

The officers were examined at  
The Hague.

They swore, the dispatches as-  
serted, that they both clearly saw  
the wake of a torpedo just before  
the Tubantia was struck.

## PASSENGERS TELL OF U-BOAT

The majority of the passenger sur-  
vivors, the Amsterdam newspapers  
assert, declare the Tubantia was tor-  
pedoed, but say they saw no subma-  
rine.

The newspapers publish columns of  
stories of survivors.

Papers favoring the allies declare  
positively that the Tubantia was tor-  
pedoed.

Those papers sympathizing with  
Germany are equally positive that the  
liner was mined.

## Mine Sunk Ship, Berlin Says, Quoting U.S. Consul

BERLIN, March 17.—The Dutch liner  
Tubantia struck a mine, and was not  
torpedoed, United States Consul  
Schilling is quoted as declaring in a  
dispatch printed by the Berlin Zeit-  
ung Am Mittag this afternoon.

## Villa Hunt Costing U. S. \$52,000 a Day

EL PASO, March 17.—Uncle Sam will  
have to dig deep into his pockets to  
land Francisco Villa where he will raid  
no more. It is already costing Uncle  
Sammy \$52,000 a day, or \$2,000 a day, to  
pursue the Mexican leader. The esti-  
mate is by Major William Elliott, quar-  
termaster.

When the fighting starts, the cost  
will go up at a tremendous rate, army  
men say.

## Kaiser to Make Amends If U-Boat Sunk Tubantia

BERLIN, March 17.—The Ger-  
man government will make  
prompt disavowal of the act  
of its U-boat commander and  
pay full compensation, it is  
stated, should it be shown  
that the Dutch liner Tubantia  
was torpedoed and did not  
strike a mine.

Practically all dispatches re-  
ceived from Rotterdam and  
Amsterdam agree that the  
liner was mined.

## Bureau Director Who Is Target for Labor Union



JOSEPH E. RALPH.

## PLATE PRINTERS AIR TROUBLE WITH RALPH

Grievances, Along Line of Petty  
Complaints, Filed With  
House Committee.

Complaints against the alleged activi-  
ties of Joseph E. Ralph, director of the  
Bureau of Engraving and Printing, in  
aiding in the establishment and conduct  
of the plant of the Cuban Bank Note  
Company, at Havana, were aired before  
the House Committee on Judiciary to-  
day, when representatives of plate  
printing interests appeared in support  
of the Carlin bill.

The bill introduced by Congressman  
Carlin, a member of the committee,  
would prohibit any officer or employee  
of the United States Government "to  
give his or her time, skill, knowledge,  
experience, or services, upon any basis  
to any foreign government, or to any  
individual, firm or corporation whatso-  
ever, domestic or foreign, for the pur-  
pose of assisting any such government,  
individual, firm or corporation in the  
establishment of, or carrying on of,  
any printing or engraving establish-  
ment, or any other business whatsoever,  
that may be directly or indirectly or  
indirectly competitive with American  
industry."

That Director Ralph had permitted  
employees of the Bureau of Engraving  
and Printing to go to Cuba to assist  
in the printing establishment there, af-  
terward taking them back on the Gov-  
ernment payroll here, was one of the  
allegations made before the committee.

It was also alleged that Director  
Ralph had negotiated the arrangement  
whereby George P. Foster, for eighteen  
years a plate printer at the bureau  
here, received a contract to superintend  
the Cuban plant at a salary of \$5,000 a  
year.

F. J. Ryan headed the delegation of  
plate printers, most of whom were from  
(Continued on Second Page.)

## Owen Would Amend Federal Bank Act

Loans on Farm Real Estate Within  
100 Miles of Bank Are  
Proposed.

Senator Owen of Oklahoma, chairman  
of the Senate Banking Committee, has  
introduced in the Senate a bill propos-  
ing a number of important amendments  
to the Banking and Currency Com-  
mittee.

## HAY OPENS DEBATE ON PREPAREDNESS; ISSUE UP IN SENATE

Congress Responds to Wilson's  
Appeal for Instant Action  
on Defense.

## CONSCRIPTION IS OPPOSED

Congress today responded to the  
country's demand and President Wil-  
son's appeal for instant action on pre-  
paredness.

Both Senate and House plunged into  
national defense legislation. All other  
considerations were submerged; nearly  
all other business halted.

To rush the passing of the prepared-  
ness program, the house began actual  
consideration of the army reorganiza-  
tion plan. In the Senate the army  
bill was also formally launched. Both  
houses hurried toward results, spur-  
red by the American expedition into  
Mexico.

Preparedness for peace, not war, was  
the keynote of the debate in the House.  
Sentiment against conscription and com-  
pulsory military service also was a  
marked feature of the discussion.

## Hay Opens Debate.

Thrills and excitement of usual strug-  
gles in Congress were notably absent.  
Chairman Hay, of the Military Com-  
mittee, opened the debate in the House  
as spokesman for the Administration.

He declared the bill, increasing the  
army to 140,000, was a "safe and sane"  
middleground for defense. The bill will  
be taken up in detail tomorrow, when  
most of the membership expects to  
speak under a five-minute rule.

Passage not later than next week is  
the program, with night sessions to  
rush consideration.

Gordon of Ohio advocated adoption of  
a military training system similar to  
the Swiss. He supported the bill in  
general.

"National defense is being discussed  
by many who know little about it,"  
said Gordon. "Those that know the  
least talk the most. The greatest  
danger to liberty is a large standing  
army; and the best substitute is an  
adequate militia."

Chairman Hay made a detailed ex-  
planation of the Administration legisla-  
tion.

"On a question of this character all  
Americans should stand together," Hay  
declared. "There is no room for both  
sides. He praised the non-partisan way  
in which the bill was drafted."

He called it a "reasonable" measure.

## Expects Opposition.

"It will meet with opposition from  
those opposed to any defense and those  
who think we have not gone far  
enough," said Hay. "We have a volun-  
teer system in this country, and we  
have to deal with conditions as they  
are and not as in other countries where  
they have compulsory service."

"To have an army of 200,000 men  
would mean compulsory service. I do  
not think the country would accept  
this."

Applause demonstrated the ex-  
pressed sentiment against conscrip-  
tion.

"A army of 250,000 would cost  
\$750,000,000 a year," he continued. "If  
we do not believe Congress is ready to  
saddle this expense on the country in  
time of peace."

With auxiliaries and insular forces,  
Hay said, the bill really provides for  
180,000 men.

He was interrupted frequently by  
questions about details. He said 200,000  
men could be added to the proposed  
army of 140,000 in case of war. The  
army being thus quickly expanded by  
using the proposed skeleton peace organiza-  
tion.

If this bill passes, there will be at  
all times in the United States about  
60,000 men. The others will be in our  
possession," said Hay. "At no time  
have the had 100,000 men in the army  
since the Spanish war."

## SUNDAY PROMISES TO MAKE ADDRESS HERE ON APRIL 3

Evangelist Accepts Invitation to  
Speak at Gathering at  
Foundry M. E. Church.

## GOING OVER TO BALTIMORE

Billy Sunday is coming to Wash-  
ington Monday, April 3, to speak at  
Foundry M. E. Church, at Sixteenth and  
Church streets.

The evangelist has accepted an invita-  
tion to speak on that date before the  
Baltimore conference of the Methodist  
Church, which will be meeting here at  
that time.

Methodist ministers from Washington  
and Baltimore have tried to get him,  
and the Rev. Dr. W. W. Wedderspoon,  
of Foundry Church, who was active a  
year ago in trying to get the evangelist  
here for a campaign, was among those  
who urged him to come.

Sunday gave his acceptance yesterday  
to the Rev. Dr. E. L. Watson and other  
ministers.

Before the same conference, on Fri-  
day, March 21, President Wilson will  
make an address at the celebration of  
the centennial of Bishop Asbury, pioneer  
Methodist bishop in America.

More than 600 members of churches  
and young people's societies in Wash-  
ington will go to Baltimore this after-  
noon on special cars to hear Billy Sun-  
day preach.

## Will Have Charge.

With Percy Foster, who had charge  
of the inaugural chorus, along to lead  
in Sunday campaign hymns; with young  
people selling sandwiches and milk  
aboard the two special trains, and with  
banners of the various societies flying,  
the Washington folk will board the  
train of five coaches each, on the W.  
B. and A. One train leaves at 3:30  
o'clock and a second at 3:45.

In Baltimore special cars will be wait-  
ing to take the delegation direct to the  
tabernacle.

Arrangements were made several  
weeks ago, as exclusively announced  
through The Times, for the reserva-  
tions.

George Sunday set the date, and the  
(Continued on Sixth Page.)

## STRUGGLE CENTERS ON DEAD MAN HILL

Slopes Strewn With Bodies of  
German and French After  
Three-Day Battle.

## BERLIN, March 17.—Repulse of two French attacks against Dead Man Hill is claimed in an official statement from the war office this afternoon.

LONDON, March 17.—The slopes of  
Dead Man Hill are strewn with the  
bodies of thousands of German and  
French dead, cut down in three days  
of fierce fighting northwest of Verdun.

The plateau has earned its sinister  
name, dispatches from both Paris and  
Berlin agree today. The slaughter on  
the northern ridge, where Silesian  
troops gained a footing, has not been  
equaled since the desperate fighting  
around Beaumont and Vaux.

## Reports Contradictory.

Paris and Berlin reports today con-  
tinue flatly contradictory in the ac-  
counts of the struggle for Dead Man  
Hill, the bulwark of the French lines  
west of the Meuse. The French war  
office, after first denying the Berlin  
claim that Silesians had captured the  
position, reports the repulse of fresh  
German assaults against the plateau,  
and asserts, unless the French are  
driven off to the north.

The Berlin statement, somewhat  
vague, reports that French attempts to  
reconquer Dead Man Hill and positions  
to the north, have been repulsed.

British military experts, accepting the  
French claim as true, declare that  
had the French lost the position, they  
must of necessity have abandoned the  
village of Bethincourt, to the north-  
west. Berlin has made no claim to  
Bethincourt's capture, and the latest  
French official statement reported the  
village still firmly held by the French.

From Dead Man Hill French guns  
sweep the German columns eastward  
to the Meuse, blocking any advance  
through Cumeres, in the direction of  
Fort Marre.

## Attacks Continue.

Heavy artillery fire along this whole  
sector yesterday has convinced military  
critics that the Silesian regiments have  
not abandoned their attempt to take  
the plateau. Unless the French are  
driven from the hill by frontal attacks  
or are forced to evacuate by an en-  
veloping movement, the German can-  
not push nearer the northwestern fort-  
ifications of Verdun.

## MEXICANS DESTROY BRIDGE AND DELAY MORMONS' RESCUE

Burn Structure on Northwest-  
ern Railway Near Town of  
San Pedro.

## RELIEF TRAIN FROM JUAREZ

Co-Religionists in El Paso to  
Go to Pearson, Armed to  
Resist Attack.

EL PASO, Tex., March 17.—Mexicans  
burned a bridge on the Mexico North-  
western railway near San Pedro today,  
further delaying the rescue of several  
hundred American Mormon colonists in  
Chihuahua.

Impatient over the delay in bringing  
their co-religionists to the border, El  
Paso Mormons today obtained permis-  
sion from General Gavira, Carranza  
commandant in Juarez, to dispatch a  
special train from Juarez to Pearson.

Unless the Carranzistas start a re-  
fugee train northward before the re-  
lief special reaches them, the Mor-  
mons will not reach the border be-  
fore Saturday night of Sunday.

Gavira refused a military escort to  
the refugee train, scheduled to leave  
Juarez today. He said he had no  
troops to spare.

Armed El Paso Mormons will travel  
with the special to fight off possible  
attacks by bandits. Groups of Vil-  
listas were reported along the Mexico  
Northwestern railway, over which the  
train must travel.

According to the latest information  
here, Villa was in the vicinity of San  
Buena Ventura and El Valle, headed for  
Chocolate Pass, north of the Santa  
Clara Canyon. This is south of the Mor-  
mon colony in the Chihuahua district, and  
indicates they will probably escape molesta-  
tion.

## Peace Council Fight Up in Court Today

Former Congressman Fowler and  
Associates Resisting Removal  
to New York for Trial.

Resistance to the right of United  
States Marshal Spain to remove them  
to New York to answer indictments will  
be made this afternoon in Circuit Court  
No. 1 by Henry B. Martin, H. Robert  
Fowler, and Herman J. Schulteis.

With Congressman Buchanan, these  
men were indicted last month in New  
York for alleged participation in a  
scheme to foment strikes. Congressman  
Buchanan has answered the indictment  
in New York.

The hearing today is on a writ of  
habeas corpus attacking the right of the  
United States marshal to remove the  
defendants to New York.

Two weeks ago Commissioner Anson  
Taylor held that a summons from the  
Federal court of New York was opera-  
tive against the men in the District.

Henry E. Davis is chief counsel for  
the defendants, while Assistant District  
Attorney James B. Archer will handle  
the case for the Government.

## Seven Burned to Death; Home Destroyed by Fire

CUMBERLAND, Md., March 17.—Elis-  
worth E. Fout, forty-eight; his daugh-  
ter, Mrs. William Shearer, eighteen, and  
five other children of area ranging  
from four to fourteen, were burned to  
death this morning at Clayville, W.  
Va., thirty-five miles south of Cumber-  
land, when their home was destroyed  
by fire.

Fout had rescued his wife and infant;  
but perished when he went back into the  
house after the others. William  
Shearer, while trying to save his wife,  
and David Fout were seriously burned.

## Berlin Declares Essen Is Not Badly Damaged

BERLIN, March 17.—Reports that  
Essen was severely damaged by hos-  
tile air-men, and that the Essen rail-  
road station was bombarded, were  
semi-officially denied today.

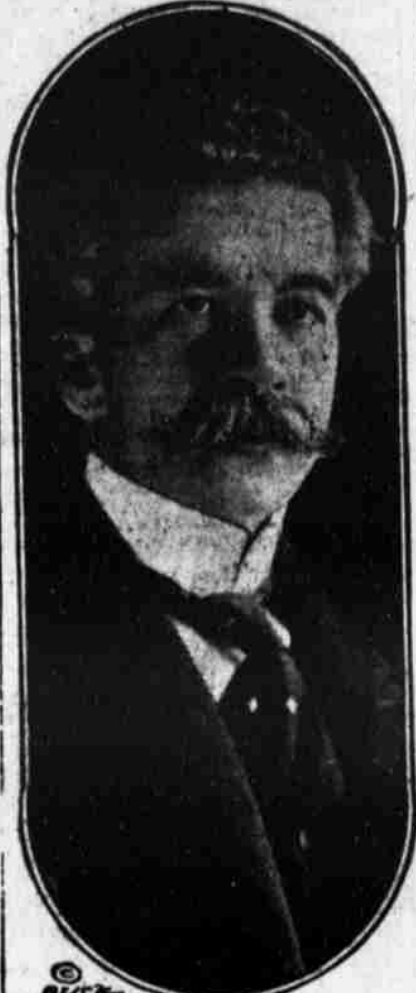
The reports of an allied air raid on  
Essen and other German cities came  
from Amsterdam, and have not  
been confirmed officially.

The Berlin statement, however, does  
not specifically deny that Essen was  
raided by allied aviators.

## Wives Are "Luxuries" In Government's View

Wives are regarded as "luxuries" by  
the United States Government.  
A decision rendered today by the  
Comptroller of the Treasury to the Sec-  
retary of Agriculture says Government  
employees on public business are allowed  
only one-half the expense when they  
occupy sections in sleeping cars or dou-  
ble hotel rooms.

## Brazilian Ambassador Who Is Critically Ill



DOMICIO DA GAMA.

## DOMICIO DA GAMA AT POINT OF DEATH

Brazilian Envoy Suffering From  
Acute Intestinal Trouble.  
Stricken Last Night.

Brazilian Ambassador Domicio da  
Gama was reported at the point of  
death today with acute intestinal  
trouble.

It was said at the embassy the am-  
bassador suffered the attack late last  
night.

Physicians are at his bedside con-  
stantly.

Ambassador da Gama is fifty-four  
years old. He is one of the most popu-  
lar of the diplomats here, and one of  
the oldest in point of service. He ranks  
third to Ambassador Jusserand of  
France and Ambassador von Bernstorff  
of Germany.

In November, 1912, Ambassador da  
Gama surprised social Washington and  
New York by marrying Mrs. Elizabeth  
Bell Hearn, widow of Arthur Hearn,  
New York drygoods magnate. They  
were married at the home of E. H.  
Gary.

Mayor Gaynor performed the  
civil ceremony, and the Rev. Percy  
Stekney Grant performed the religious  
ceremony. Governor Whitman, then  
United States attorney, was among the  
guests.

Mr. da Gama's career has been di-  
vided between diplomacy and jour-  
nalism. He was Paris correspondent  
for a Brazilian journal for many  
years. He entered the diplomatic  
service in 1892, when he was secre-  
tary of a special commission—of  
which President Cleveland was arbi-  
trator—to settle the dispute between  
Brazil and Argentina as to the do-  
minion over the Palmas territory.

He then had special missions to  
Paris, Bern, and London, and was  
charged with affairs at Rio de Janeiro.  
He served at the Argentine legation  
until 1911, when he was ap-  
pointed ambassador at Washington—  
the only ambassador in the Brazilian  
foreign service.

## Loyalty of Calles' Troops Questioned

Ranchers Fear Desertions to Villa.  
Carranzistas Guard Ojinas  
Pass.

DOUGLAS, Ariz., March 17.—With  
500,000 rounds of ammunition here avail-  
ing to Carranzista Gen. E. P.  
Calles, ranchers arriving from Nacozari  
today express doubt as to the loyalty of  
Calles' troops to the Mexican federal  
cause.

Discredited rumors reach here that  
Villista bandits are heading for Caba-  
lona to join Carranza soldiers mobilized  
there and reported rebellious.

Should Villa escape to the Sonora side  
of the Sierra Madre, an expedition  
could move at an hour's notice.  
Douglas has been placed under a  
strict military censorship.

Five hundred Carranzista cavalrymen  
have been sent to guard Ojinas pass,  
through which Villa might attempt to  
cross the Sierras.

## CARRANZISTAS AID PERSHING, FUNSTON SAYS

Trained Aviators Guide U. S.  
Troops in Search for Mexi-  
can Bandits.

## TROOPS SEE NO FIGHTING

Attitude of Mexican Peons To-  
ward Expedition Causes  
Grave Anxiety.

The Senate this afternoon  
adopted a resolution offered by  
Senator La Follette assuring the  
Mexican people that the expedi-  
tion to capture Villa will not  
grow into intervention and will  
not encroach in the slightest de-  
gree upon the sovereignty of the  
de facto government.

Senator Stone, representing  
the Administration, asked that it  
be passed immediately without  
debate, and this was done. The  
resolution also gave the Presi-  
dent authority to use any troops  
of the United States in the ex-  
pedition.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March  
17.—Sweeping in gigantic circles,  
miles in extent, American aere-  
planes today are seeking for in-  
dications of wandering bands of  
Villistas or the headquarters of  
Villa himself.

Brigadier General Pershing is  
utilizing the first aero squadron in  
the international man hunt, accord-  
ing to official confirmation at  
Fort Sam Houston today. One  
hundred odd Carranza troops are  
acting as scouts for General  
Pershing, says official confirma-  
tion.

Unopposed as yet by Villistas,  
and aided by Carranzista scouts,  
the American forces have pushed  
farther into the desert of Chihua-  
hua in the pursuit of Villa.

## PEONS CAUSE ANXIETY.

Major General Funston said today  
that no casualties had been sustained  
nor any fighting been done by General  
Pershing's forces, now two days in  
Mexico.

There is still apprehension at head-  
quarters, however, over the ultimate  
attitude of the Mexican peons, ignorant  
of the real nature of the expedition.

"I note that certain news dispatches  
this morning stated that no Carranza  
soldiers are operating with General  
Pershing's column," stated General Fun-  
ston.

"Or the contrary, about 100 Carranza  
regular soldiers are with the column  
operating under General Pershing."

## Uprising of Peons Is Feared Along Border

EL PASO, March 17.—Swallowed up in  
the hills and deserts of northern Chi-  
huahua, the United States expedition  
of two divisions is seeking Villa today  
while its movements are screened by an  
almost impenetrable censorship.

It is reported that thousands of Mexi-  
cans in the great stretch of open coun-  
try south of Presidio are ready to join  
the Villa standard against the "in-  
vaders."

Peons are generally held along the  
border that before the Americans can  
take Villa down or alive all Mexico  
will rise up in arms against the "grin-  
goes."

Driving along the eastern slope of  
the Sierra Madre, the Seventh and  
Tenth Regiments of cavalry, under  
Colonel Dodd, are expected to arrive at  
Colonias Dublan today and, finding the  
Mexican colony safe, are to continue  
on forced marches toward Casas  
Grandes in an attempt to cut off Villa's